

SWE

2. To bias; to direct to either side.
Heav'n forgive them, that so much have sway'd
Your majesty's good thoughts away from me. *Shakespeare.*
I took your hands; but was, indeed,
Sway'd from the point, by looking down on Cæsar. *Shakespeare.*
The only way 't' improve our own,
By dealing faithfully with none;
As bows run true by being made.
On purpose false, and to be sway'd. *Hudibras.*
3. To govern; to rule; to overpower; to influence.
The lady's mad; yet if 'twere so,
She could not sway her house, command her followers,
With such a smooth, discreet, and stable bearing. *Shakespeare.*
The will of man is by his reason sway'd;
And reason says, you are the worthier maid. *Shakespeare.*
On Europe thence, and where Rome was to sway
The world. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
A gentle nymph, not far from hence,
That with moist curb sways the smooth Severn stream,
Sabrina is her name. *Milton.*
Take heed lest passion sway
Thy judgment to do ought, which else free will
Would not admit. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
The judgment is sway'd by passion, and stored with labri-
cious opinions, instead of clearly conceived truths. *Glavin.*
This was the race
To sway the world, and land and sea subdued. *Dryden.*
With these I went,
Nor idle stood with unaffixing hands,
When savage beasts, and mens more savage bands,
Their virtuous toil subdu'd; yet those I sway'd
With pow'rful speech: I spoke, and they obey'd. *Dryden.*
When examining these matters, let not temporal and little
advantages sway you against a more durable interest. *Tillotson.*
- TO SWAY. *v. n.*
1. To hang heavy; to be drawn by weight.
In these personal respects, the balance sways on our part. *Bacon.*
2. To have weight; to have influence.
The example of sundry churches, for approbation of one
thing, doth sway much; but yet still as having the force of an
example only, and not of a law. *Hooker.*
3. To bear rule; to govern.
The mind I sway by, and the heart I bear,
Shall never sag with doubt, nor shake with fear. *Shakespeare.*
Hadst thou sway'd as kings should do,
They never then had sprung like summer flies. *Shakespeare.*
Aged tyranny sways not as it hath power, but as it is suf-
fered. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*
Here thou shalt monarch reign;
There didst not: there let him still victor sway. *Milton.*
- SWAY. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. The swing or sweep of a weapon.
To strike with huge two-handed sway. *Milton.*
2. Any thing moving with bulk and power.
Are not you mov'd, when all the sway of earth
Shakes like a thing unfirm? *Shakespeare. Julius Cæsar.*
Expert
When to advance, or stand, or turn the sway
Of battle. *Milton.*
3. Power; rule; dominion.
This sort had some fear that the filling up the seats in the
consistory, with so great number of laymen, was but to please
the minds of the people, to the end they might think their
own sway somewhat. *Hooker.*
In the end, very few excepted, all became subject to the
sway of time: other odds there was none, saving that some
fell sooner, and some later, from the foundnels of belief. *Hook.*
Only retain
The name and all th' addition to a king;
The sway, revenue, execution of th' helm,
Beloved sons, be yours. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*
Her father counts it dangerous
That she should give her sorrow so much sway,
And in his wisdom halts our marriage,
To stop the inundation of her tears. *Shakespeare.*
Too truly Tamerlane's successors they;
Each thinks a world too little for his sway. *Dryden. Aurengz.*
When vice prevails, and impious men bear sway,
The post of honour is a private station. *Addison's Cato.*
4. Influence; direction.
An evil mind in authority doth not only follow the sway of
the desires already within it, but frames to itself new desires,
not before thought of. *Sidney.*
They rush along, the rattling woods give way,
The branches bend before their sweepy sway. *Dryden.*
- TO SWEAR. *v. n.* preter. *swore* or *sware*; part. pass. *sworn*.
[*swaran*, Gothick; *swepan*, Saxon; *swaeren*, Dutch.]
1. To obtest some superior power; to utter an oath.
If a man vow a vow unto the Lord, or swear an oath to
bind his soul with a bond, he shall not break his word. *Numb.*
Thee, thee an hundred languages shall claim,
And savage Indians swear by Anna's name. *Titchel.*

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2. To declare or promise upon oath.
We shall have old swearing
That they did give the rings away to men;
But we'll outface them, and outwear them too. *Shakespeare.*
I gave my love a ring, and made him swear
Never to part with it; and here he stands,
I dare be sworn for him, he would not leave it,
Nor pluck it from his finger. *Shakespeare.*
I would have kept my word;
But, when I swear, it is irrevocable. *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*
Jacob said, swear to me; and he swore unto him. *Gen.*
Bacchus taken at Rhodes by Demetrius Poliorcetes, which
he so esteemed, that, as Plutarch reports, he swore he had rather
lose all his father's images than that table. *Peasam.*
3. To give evidence upon oath.
At what case
Might corrupt minds procure knaves as corrupt
To swear against you? *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*
4. To obtest the great name profanely.
Because of swearing the land mourneth. *Jer. xxiii. 10.*
Obey thy parents, keep thy word justly;
Swear not. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*
None so nearly disposed to scoffing at religion as those who
have accustomed themselves to swear on trifling occasions. *Till.*
- TO SWEAR. *v. a.*
1. To put to an oath.
Moses took the bones of Joseph; for he had straitly sworn
the children of Israel. *Ex. xiii. 19.*
Sworn afore, man, like a duck; I can swim like a duck,
I'll be sworn. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*
Let me swear you all to secrecy;
And, to conceal my shame, conceal my life. *Dryden.*
2. To declare upon oath.
3. To obtest by an oath.
Now by Apollo, king, thou swear'st thy gods in vain.
—O vassal! miscreant!
SWEARER. *n. f.* [from *swear*.] A wretch who obtests the great
name wantonly and profanely.
And must they all be hang'd that swear and lie?
—Every one.
—Who must hang them?
—Why, the honest men.
—Then the liars and swearers are fools; for there are liars and
swearers enow to beat the honest men and hang them up. *Shakespeare.*
Take not his name, who made thy mouth, in vain;
It gets thee nothing, and hath no excuse:
Lust and wine plead a pleasure, avarice a gain;
But the cheap swearer through his open sluice
Lets his foul run for naught. *Herbert.*
Of all men a philosopher should be no swearer; for an oath,
which is the end of controversies in law, cannot determine
any here, where reason only must induce. *Brown.*
It is the opinion of our most refined swearers, that the same
oath or curse cannot, consistently with true politeness, be re-
peated above nine times in the same company by the same per-
son. *Swift's Polite Conversation.*
- SWEAT. *n. f.* [*swēat*, Saxon; *swēet*, Dutch.]
1. The matter evacuated at the pores by heat or labour.
Sweat is salt in taste; for that part of the nourishment
which is fresh and sweet, turneth into blood and flesh; and
the sweat is that part which is excremed. *Bacon.*
Some insensible effluvia, exhaling out of the stone, comes
to be checked and condensed by the air on the superficies of it,
as it happens to sweat on the skins of animals. *Boyle.*
Soft on the flow'ry herb I found me laid
In balmy sweat. *Milton.*
When Lucilius brandishes his pen,
And flashes in the face of guilty men,
A cold sweat stands in drops on ev'ry part,
And rage succeeds to tears, revenge to smart. *Dryden.*
Sweat is produced by changing the balance between the
fluids and solids, in which health consists, so as that projectile
motion of the fluids overcome the resistance of the solids. *Arb.*
2. Labour; toil; drudgery.
This painful labour of abridging was not easy, but a mat-
ter of sweat and watching. *Milton.*
The field
To labour calls us, now with sweat impos'd.
What from Johnson's oil and sweat did flow,
Or what more easy nature did bestow
On Shakespeare's gentler muse, in these full grown
Their graces both appear. *Denham.*
3. Evaporation of moisture.
Beans give in the mow; and therefore those that are to be
kept are not to be thrashed 'till March, that they have had a
thorough sweat in the mow. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
- TO SWEAT. *v. n.* preterite *swet*, *sweated*; particip. pass. *sweating*.
[from the noun.]
1. To be moist on the body with heat or labour.
Shall I say to you,
Let them be free, marry them to your heirs?
Why sweat they under burdens? *Shakespeare. Merchant of Venice.*
Mistress

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- Mistress Page at the door, sweating and blowing, and look-
ing wildly, would needs speak with you. *Shakespeare.*
When he was brought again to the bar, to hear
His knell rung out, his judgment, he was stir'd
With such an agony, he sweat extremely. *Shakespeare. H. VIII.*
About this time in autumn, there reigned in the city and
other parts of the kingdom a disease then new; which, of the
accidents and manner thereof they called the sweating sick-
ness. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
- A young tall squire
Did from the camp at first before him go;
At first he did, but scarce could follow strait;
Sweating beneath a shield's unruly weight. *Cowley.*
2. To toil; to labour; to drudge.
How the drudging goblin sweat
To earn his cream-bowl duly set;
When in one night, ere glimpse of morn,
His shadowy flail hath thrash'd the corn. *Milton.*
Our author, not content to see
That others write as carelessly as he;
Though he pretends not to make things complete,
Yet, to please you, he'd have the poets sweat. *Waller.*
3. To emit moisture.
Wainfscots will sweat so that they will run with water.
In cold evenings there will be a moisture or sweating upon
the stool. *Mortimer.*
- TO SWEAT. *v. a.* To emit as sweat.
Grease that's sweated
From the murderer's gibbet, throw
Into the flame. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
For him the rich Arabia sweats her gum. *Dryden.*
- SWEATER. *n. f.* [from *sweat*.] One who sweats.
SWEATY. *adj.* [from *sweat*.]
1. Covered with sweat; moist with sweat.
The rablement houted and clapp'd their chop'd hands, and
threw up their sweaty night-caps. *Shakespeare. Julius Cæsar.*
A sweaty reaper from his tillage brought
First-fruits, the green ear, and the yellow sheaf. *Milton.*
2. Consisting of sweat.
And then, so nice, and so genteel,
Such cleanliness from head to heel;
No humours gross, or frowly steams,
No noisome whiffs, or sweaty streams. *Swift.*
3. Laborious; toilsome.
Those who labour
The sweaty forge, who edge the crooked scythe,
Bend stubborn steel, and harden gleaming armour,
Acknowledge Vulcan's aid. *Prior.*
- TO SWEAT. *v. a.* [Japan, Saxon.]
1. To drive away with a besom.
2. To clean with a besom.
What woman, having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one,
doth not sweep the house, and seek diligently 'till she find it?
Lu. xv. 8.
3. To carry with pomp.
Let frantic Talbot triumph for a while,
And, like a peacock, sweep along his tail. *Shakespeare. H. VI.*
4. To drive or carry off with celerity and violence.
Though I could,
With barefaced powers, sweep him from my sight,
And bid my will avouch it; yet I must not. *Shakespeare.*
The river of Kithon swept them away. *Judas v.*
The blustering winds striving for victory, sweep the snow
from off the tops of those high mountains, and cast it down
unto the plains in such abundance, that the Turks lay as men
buried alive. *Kneller's History of the Turks.*
- Flying bullets now
To execute his rage appear too slow;
They mis or sweep but common souls away;
For such a loss Opdam his life must pay. *Waller.*
My looking is the fire of pestilence,
That sweeps at once the people and the prince. *Dryden.*
I have already swept the flakes, and with the common good
fortune of prosperous gamblers can be content to sit. *Dryden.*
Is this the man who drives me before him
To the world's ridge, and sweeps me off like rubbish? *Dryden.*
Fool! time no change of motion knows;
With equal speed the torrent flows
To sweep fame, pow'r, and wealth away:
The past is all by death possess'd,
And frugal fate that guards the rest,
By giving, bids them live, to day. *Penton.*
A duke holding in a great many hands, drew a huge heap
of gold; but never observed a sharper, who under his arm
swept a great deal of it into his hat. *Swift.*
5. To pass over with celerity and force.
6. To rub over.
Their long descending train
With rubies edg'd, and sapphires swept the plain. *Dryden.*

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7. To strike with long stroke.
Descend ye nine; descend and sing;
The breathing instruments inspire,
Wake into voice each silent string,
And sweep the founding lyre. *Pope.*
- TO SWEEP. *v. n.*
1. To pass with violence, tumult, or swiftness.
Haste me to know it, that I with wings as swift
As meditation or the thoughts of love
May sweep to my revenge. *Shakespeare.*
A poor man that oppresseth the poor, is like a sweeping rain
which leaveth no food. *Prov. xxviii. iii.*
Before tempestuous winds arise,
Stars shooting through the darkness gild the night
With sweeping glories and long trails of light. *Dryden.*
2. To pass with pomp; to pass with an equal motion.
She sweeps it through the court with troops of ladies,
More like an empress than duke Humphrey's wife. *Shakespeare.*
In gentle dreams I often will be by,
And sweep along before your closing eye. *Dryden.*
3. To move with a long reach.
Nor always errs; for oft the gauntlet draws
A sweeping stroke along the crackling jaws. *Dryden.*
- SWEEP. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. The act of sweeping.
2. The compass of any violent or continued motion.
A door drags when by its ill hanging on its hinges, or by
the ill boarding of the room the bottom edge of the door rides
in its sweep upon the floor. *Milton's Mechan. Exercise.*
Lion-hearted Richard like a torrent swell'd
With wintry tempests, that disdain all mounds,
Breaking away impetuous, and involves
Within its sweep, trees, houses, men. *Philips.*
3. Violent destruction.
In countries subject to great epidemical sweeps, men may
live very long, but where the proportion of the chonical dis-
temper is great, it is not likely to be so. *Grant.*
4. Direction of any motion not rectilinear.
Having made one incision a little circularly, begin a second,
bringing it with an opposite sweep to meet the other. *Sharp.*
- SWEPTINGS. *n. f.* [from *sweep*.] That which is swept away.
Should this one broomstick enter the scene, covered with
dust, though the sweepings of the finest lady's chamber, we
should despise its vanity. *Swift.*
- SWEETNET. *n. f.* [sweep and net.] A net that takes in a great
compass.
She was a sweepnet for the Spanish ships, which happily fell
into her net. *Camden.*
- SWEETSTAKE. *n. f.* [sweep and stake.] A man that wins
all.
Is't writ in your revenge,
That sweepstake you will draw both friend and foe,
Winner and loser. *Shakespeare.*
- SWEET'RY. *adj.* [from *sweep*.] Passing with great speed and vio-
lence over a great compass at once.
They rush along, the rattling woods give way,
The branches bend before their sweepy sway. *Dryden.*
- SWEET. *adj.* [preter. *swet*, Dutch.]
1. Pleasing to any sense.
Sweet expresses the pleasant perceptions of almost every sense:
sugar is sweet, but it hath not the same sweetness as musick;
nor hath musick the sweetness of a rose, and a sweet prospect
differs from them all: nor yet have any of these the same
sweetness as discourse, counsel, or meditation hath; yet the
royal Psalmist faith of a man, we took sweet counsel together;
and of God, my meditation of him shall be sweet. *Watts.*
2. Luscious to the taste.
This honey, tasted still is ever sweet. *Davies.*
3. Fragrant to the smell.
Balm his foul head with warm distilled waters,
And burn sweet wood to make the lodging sweet. *Shakespeare.*
Where a rainbow hangeth over or toucheth, there breath-
eth a sweet smell; for that this happeneth but in certain mat-
ters which have some sweetness which the dew of the rainbow
draweth forth. *Bacon.*
Shred very small with thime sweet-margory and a little win-
ter favour. *Waller's Angler.*
The balmy zephyrs, silent since her death,
Lament the ceasing of a sweeter breath. *Pope.*
The streets with treble voices ring,
To sell the bounteous product of the spring;
Sweet-smelling flow'rs, and elders early bud. *Gay.*
4. Melodious to the ear.
The dulcimer, all organs of sweet stop. *Milton.*
Her speech is grac'd with sweeter sound
Than in another's song is found. *Waller.*
No more the streams their murmurs shall forbear
A sweeter musick than their own to hear;
But tell the reeds, and tell the vocal shore,
Fair Daphne's dead, and musick is no more. *Pope.*
5. Pleasing